

ERANNIS LEUCOPHAEARIA D. & SCHIFF. IN DECEMBER. — I got quite a surprise in the morning of 30th December, 1974 to find a very black Spring Usher sitting on a window here, as I had never known this moth out before January, but perhaps it is not so remarkable considering the very mild spell during the last ten days of the year which has brought out the vegetation weeks ahead of its normal appearance. — C. G. M. DE WORMS, Three Oaks, Shore's Road, Woking.

ORTHOSIA STABILIS L. IN EARLY JANUARY 1975. — I had a surprise this morning, 3rd January, to find a Common Quaker in my m.v. trap, an abnormally early date for this spring species which I have only known twice before at this period of the year. — C. G. M. DE WORMS, Three Oaks, Shore's Road, Woking.

MELIANA FLAMMEA CURTIS (FLAME WAINSCOT) IN SUSSEX. — I took a male of this species at m.v. light here on 12th June, 1974 which Dr. J. V. Banner kindly identified for me. There are relatively few records of this moth outside East Anglia and the fens and I would be interested to hear of any other Sussex records or is this the first record of its occurrence in the county? It has been suggested that the specimen may have been an immigrant. However, as about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the site of its capture there commence many acres of reed beds lining the numerous interlocked waterways at the mouth of the Ouse, could not this specimen have been one of a colony possibly started by immigration? It would be interesting to know if the native *flammea* differs in appearance from continental specimens. — COLIN PRATT, 5 View Road, Peacehaven, Newhaven, Sussex. [We only know of one other Sussex occurrence. In 1964, G. Haggett (*Ent. Rec.*, 76: 193) noted a *flammea* at light at Arundel on 17th May, which may well have been an immigrant as two others appeared at light in widely separated localities in Kent on 24th May the same year and the only captures of this species in Kent for more than a century. — Editor.]

APOCHEIMA PILOSARIA D. & S. IN EARLY DECEMBER. — Single examples came into my trap here on the nights of 1st and 3rd December, when minimum temperatures were around 50°F.: a curious sequel to a very cold October and poor November, I have seen this moth in December occasionally before, but never much before Christmas. — R. F. BRETHERTON, Folly Hill, Birtley Green, Bramley, Surrey.